



# B a t s

## When to catch them



If you or your pet are bitten by a bat, or if infectious material (such as saliva) from a bat gets into your eyes, nose, mouth, or a cut



If you wake up and find a bat in your room



If you see a bat in the room of a child or near a mentally impaired or intoxicated person

## When to let them go



If you see a bat in your home and you are sure no human or pet came in contact with it, then let the bat go

### How can I safely capture a bat in my home?

If professional help is not available, capture the bat safely as described below. You will need leather work gloves (put them on), a small box or coffee can, a piece of cardboard, and tape.

When the bat lands, move toward it slowly. While wearing the gloves, put the box or coffee can over the bat. Then, slide the cardboard under the container to trap the bat inside. Tape the cardboard to the container, and punch small holes in the cardboard, allowing the bat to breathe. Contact The Erie County Department of Health at one of the following locations that is nearest to where you live.



**Buffalo Area**  
**961-6800**

**Lancaster Area**  
**683-6487**

**Hamburg Area**  
**649-4225**

If you or your pets come in contact with a bat after regular business hours, please call **898-4225**. ECDOH staff will determine if the bat will be picked up for testing, and if it will be picked up, then this will occur during regular business hours.